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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re Application of

John C. Harvey and James W. Cuddihy

Examiner:

Serial No.

To be Accorded

Group Unit:

Filed

Herewith

Atty Dkt: 5634.074

For

SIGNAL PROCESSING APPARATUS AND METHODS

## **PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to initiating the Examination of the above-described continuation application, Applicants herewith submit the following Preliminary Amendment.

## **IN THE CLAIMS**

Please cancel claim 1 and add the following claims:

2. A method for tracking the collection of information in a data network at a receiver station from a plurality of sources, said receiver station having a data network connection, a processor, an input device, and a data storage device, said method comprising the steps of:

5 receiving from said input device a set of information collection parameters;

6 generating a query from said set of information collection parameters at said

7 receiver station;